Fresh targets of naxal groups

1559. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that naxal groups have identified 31 new districts in the States of Jharkhand, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh as their fresh targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRI PRAKASH JAISWAL): As per available information, some districts in Orissa and some other States are reported to be targeted by the naxal groups.

Specialized institutes for disaster management

1560. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from States for setting up specialized institutes for disaster management;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and university-wise;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government;

(d) whether any proposal is under consideration to set up such an institute in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) Under an existing scheme being operated by this Ministry, financial assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 15 lakh per year is being provided to Administrative Training Institutes/State Institutes of Rural Development, or other training institutes/University, designated by the State Governments, for operation of a Faculty of Disaster Management in such institutes. At present, 29 training institutes/university designated by the State Governments in 28 States are being provided financial assistance under this scheme. The Government of Orissa had, in December, 2002 proposed that the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) be located at Bhubaneswar/Puri. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had, in November 2003, proposed that the NIDM be located at Hyderabad. The State Governments were informed that in view of the need for close interaction between the Ministry of Home Affairs and NIDM,

it would be desirable to locate it in or around Delhi. NIDM is at present located in Delhi.

Bogus freedom fighters

1561. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters found bogus during investigation by Government, State-wise;

(b) whether any recovery has been made from those bogus freedom fighters; and

(c) the State-wise detail of the investigations regarding bogus freedom fighters in progress in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) As per available records, a total of 3113 pensions have been suspended and 1599 pensions have been cancelled till 30.10.2005, since the inception of the Central scheme in 1972. A statement showing the State-wise details is annexed in the enclosed statement (See below).

(b) The pensions drawn earlier are also simultaneously ordered to be recovered in all cases where the pensions are cancelled (except where it is duly established that the earlier pensions were obtained on mistaken ground, *I.e.,* the persons were not at fault and no malafide or submission of false information, etc. was made out against them). Actual recovery is made by the concerned State Governments. The Central Government does not maintain record of the recoveries effected.

(c) Receipt of complaints/information from various sources alleging bogus/fraudulent pensions is a continuous process. Each such matter is examined with reference to the provisions of the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980, normally in consultation with the concerned State Government. On examination, wherever it is established that the claim does not meet the eligibility criteria and the evidentiary requirements of the Scheme, the pension is suspended/cancelled, after following due process. Such matters are dealt with individually. Statistical details are not maintained.